

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/986,427

Examiner

Melody M. Burch

Applicant(s)

FUJINUMA, TAKAO

Art Unit

3683

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/20/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,7-9,14 and 16.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 9/20/04.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

ROBERT A. SICONE
PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ronald Kananen on 11/5/04 and Brian Dutton on 11/11/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

- In line 8 from the bottom of pg. 10 of the specification "Figs. 2 and 5" has been changed to --Fig. 5-- since the groove is not shown in figure 2;
- In line 4 of paragraph [0040] of the printed publication "111" has been changed to --III--;
- In line 5 of claim 1 the phrase --a first path, a second path, a third path, a fourth path, a fifth path, a sixth path, and-- has been inserted between "comprises" and "operating";
- In line 8 of claim 1 "line, third" has been changed to --line, a third--;
- In line 9 of claim 1 "in a first" has been changed to --in the first--;
- In line 10 of claim 1 the phrase "in a third" has been changed to --in the third--;
- In line 10 of claim 1 the phrase "through a" has been changed to --through the--;

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- In line 12 of claim 1 the phrase "in a fifth" has been changed to --in the fifth-- and the phrase "through a" has been changed to --through the--;
- In line 14 of claim 1 the phrase "in a sixth" has been changed to --in the sixth--;
- After the phrase "second line," in line 15 of claim 1, the phrase "wherein the holder mounts a lock pin...to be capable of incoming and outgoing" has been deleted and the following phrase has been inserted: --wherein the shift lever has a knob at an upper end thereof and a holder at a lower end thereof provided with a perturbing body, which is biased by a perturbation spring, and the holder is provided with a first shaft and supports a second shaft in a rotatable manner, the first shaft is perpendicular to the second shaft and is born by a casing, wherein the perturbing body is in pressure contact with a perturbation groove for returning the shift lever to the second line of the path, and another perturbation groove for supporting the shift lever in the P range, R range, N range and the D range, wherein the holder mounts a lock pin laterally thereof for preventing the shift lever on the second line from moving toward the third line, wherein the lock pin is biased by a spring and arranged in a lock-pin insertion hole in a manner to be capable of incoming and outgoing, the lock-pin insertion hole being formed in an inner wall of the casing, and a stopper movably arranged on a back portion of the lock pin prevents the lock pin from entering into the lock-

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pin insertion hole, and wherein the stopper is swung by an actuator via a linkage, and the linkage connects at one end thereof to the actuator and has at the other end thereof the stopper, which is arranged on the back portion of the lock pin to be capable of incoming and outgoing" to include the limitations of allowable claim 6 and all of the intervening claims;

- Claims 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 have been cancelled;
- In lines 1-2 of claim 7 "any one of claims 1, 2, or 3" has been changed to --claim 1--;
- In line 2 of claim 7 the phrase "adapter" has been changed to --adapted--;
- In line 3 of claim 7 the phrase "a magnet" has been changed to --a rotor magnet-- to avoid confusion since other magnets are later recited;
- In line 4 of claim 7 "thereon magnetism" has been changed to --thereon rotor magnetism-- and the phrase "the magnet" has been changed to --the rotor magnet--;
- In line 2 of claim 8 the phrase "a magnet" has been changed to --a holder magnet-- to avoid confusion since a rotor magnet was previously recited and "a first substrate has been changed to --the first substrate-- to refer back to the first substrate recited in claim 7;
- In line 3 of claim 8 "thereon magnetism" has been changed to --thereon holder magnetism-- in order to avoid confusion since other magnetism sensing elements were previously recited;

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- In lines 3-4 of claim 8 the phrase "the magnet" has been changed to --the holder magnet-- for clarity.
- In line 3 of claim 9 the phrase "a first substrate" has been changed to --the first substrate--;
- In line 2 of claim 14 the phrase "said first substrate" has been changed to --a first substrate--;
- In line 3 of claim 16 the phrase "said first " has been changed to --the first-- to maintain consistency.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melody M. Burch whose telephone number is 703-306-4618. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30 AM-4:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Lavinder can be reached on 703-308-3421. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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